

DOE Weekly Field Memo – October 14, 2009

From the Vermont Department of Education:

- Press Release: Vermont among Top Performers on National Math Assessment
- Press Release: Montpelier Educator Awarded \$25,000 from Milken Foundation
- Professional Development: Fall 2009 Vermont Professional Development Network (VPDN) Meetings for Literacy, Math, and Science
- Grant: Energy Grant Opportunities for School Districts
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Press Release: Vermont among Top Performers on National Math Assessment

Audience: All

Only one state outperformed Vermont in eighth-grade math and only two states outperformed Vermont in fourth-grade math on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), according to results released by the U.S. Department of Education today. For the complete release, visit http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/press_releases.html. For Vermont's NAEP results, visit: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/data.html#naep. For a complete set of national results, visit <http://www.nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>.

Contact: Susan Hayes, NAEP Coordinator, at (802) 828-5892 or susan.hayes@state.vt.us

Press Release: Montpelier Educator Awarded \$25,000 from Milken Foundation

Audience: All

Tom Sabo, a Biology teacher at Montpelier High School, was surprised at an all-school assembly today with a \$25,000 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. For the complete release, visit http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/press_releases.html. For more information on the Milken Educator Award in Vermont, visit <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/awards.html#milken>.

Contact: Jill Remick at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us

Professional Development: Fall 2009 Vermont Professional Development Network (VPDN) Meetings for Literacy, Math, and Science

Audience: Classroom Educators, Curriculum Coordinators, Principals, Independent School Educators

VPDN meetings in literacy, math, and science provide best practices in instruction and assessment in a supportive environment in which colleagues in the teaching profession across Vermont learn with and from each other. The professional development goals of all VPDN meetings include fostering teachers' understanding of Vermont's *Grade Expectations*, using statewide data to inform instructional practice, and acquiring research-based approaches to improving student learning. The VPDN meetings provide the opportunity for Vermont teachers to network and to share their ideas about critical issues/concepts in their content area. Registration and descriptions of literacy, math and science meeting content are available by clicking the Online Registration link on the department Web site at:

Literacy: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#literacy_vpdn

Mathematics: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#math_vpdn

Science: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#science_vpdn

Contact: For Literacy, Marty Gephart at (802) 828-1462 or marty.gephart@state.vt.us

For Elementary Math, Kathy Renfrew at (802) 828-6561 or kathy.renfrew@state.vt.us

For Secondary Math, Pat Fitzsimmons at (802) 828-0196 or pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us

For Secondary Science, Gail Hall at (802) 828-0156 or gail.hall@state.vt.us

Grant: Energy Grant Opportunities for School Districts

Audience: Business Managers, Principals, Superintendents, School Boards

The Department for Public Service created an information sheet regarding grant and loan programs to support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. View the sheet at http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_construction.html#resources.

Contact: Cathy Hilgendorf (802) 828-5402 or cathy.hilgendorf@state.vt.us

DPS contact: Anne Margolis at (802) 828-4017

FYI: Transformation Blog

Audience: All

The Department of Education has been collecting articles and tidbits related to transformational education efforts in Vermont and across the country. Please take a few moments to check it out. If you have any suggestions, articles or ideas, please do not hesitate to pass them along. Access the link to the blog at <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/transformation.html#blog>.

Contact: Jill Remick at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html. Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.